Today I desire for us to forcus on the Person & Deity (God-hood) of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is both a person and God. In the Time we are living everyone or everything that is a spirit would be classified as a Person except for the Holy Spirit. Angels are Spirits.

And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire." (Hebrews 1:7 NKJV)

Which will include a wide range of them both celestial and those which are demons but no one will argue about them being persons.

God the Father is a Spirit.

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:23-24 NKJV)

Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 16:17 NKJV)

Yet no one would argue of him being a person yet when it refers to the Holy Spirit there are many who will argue of him being a person.

The Early Church saw the Holy Spirit as a Person and as God for they believed in the doctrine of the Trinity.

Tertullian 197 AD Against Praxeas states {"Bear always in mind that this is the rule of faith which I profess; by it I testify that the Father , and Son , and the Spirit are inseparable from each other, and so will you know in what sence this is said.Now , observe , my assertion is that the Father is one, and the Son one, and the Spirit one,and that they are distinct from each other."}

Irenaeus, 177AD {" Now the Church,....recieved from the Apostles and their disciples its faith in one God , and Father Almighty,who made the heaven and the earth , and the seas, and all that is in them, and in one Christ Jesus , the Son of God, who was made flesh for our salvation, and in the Holy Spirit, who through the prophets proclaimed the dispensations of God."}

Origen 170 AD On First Principles states {" Then again, the apostles , delivered this doctrine , that the Holy Spirit is united in honor and dignity with the Father and the Son.}

In this Study we have to prove two things in referance to the Holy Spirit

1) That he is a person

2) That he is God

The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom states in the cover of October 1, 2009 Magazine {" What is the Holy Spirit"}

This shows that we as christian have to have a good understanding who is the Holy Spirit. And his place in the Trinity.The Holy Spirit is no what but who.He is not a it. He is a Person . Those who hold the view are confuss becouse of the name spirit which in Hebrew is roo-akh and in Greek is pnyoo-mah which means wind, breath, and spirit.But when Jesus speaks about the Holy Spirit, he should used the word it but he doesn't.But he uses the word him, he, whom. All this describes a person.Notice the using of these words just mention in the fallowing.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He** will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. (John 14:26 NKJV)

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth **who** proceeds from the Father, **He** will testify of Me. (John 15:26 NKJV)

"And when **He** has come, **He** will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: (John 16:8 NKJV)

"However, when **He**, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He** will guide you into all truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own authority, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come. "**He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. "All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that **He** will take of Mine and declare it to you. (John 16:13-15 NKJV)

This is either bad Greek or the Holy Spirit is a actual person.

The Holy Spirit is referd to as a other counselor or comforter only a person could take the place of a other person.

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- (John 14:16 NKJV)

One day I had a talk with a Jehovah Wittness and I told him the fallowing {"Jesus when speaking of the Father said God is spirit John chapter 4 And there is no doubt in your mind God the Father is a person and If God the Father can be a spirit and a person aswell so can God the Holy Spiirt be a person and God aswell."}

What is a person?

A person must have a will,mind intellect, and emotion. Which we call personality.

Lets see if the Holy Spirit carries these traits that makes a person.

Lets look at the mind and intellect first.

A) The Holy Spirit has intellect as a person.

The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. (Isaiah 11:2 NKJV)

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. (1 Corinthians 2:10-11 NKJV)

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, (Ephesians 1:17 NKJV)

B) The Holy Spirit has a Mind

Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:27 NKJV)

C) The Holy Spirit has emotions this means feelings

Love

Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, (Romans 15:30 NKJV)

Sad

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Ephesians 4:30 NKJV)

Anger

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; So He turned Himself against them as an enemy, And He fought against them. (Isaiah 63:10 NKJV)

D) The Holy Spirit has a will

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: (1 Corinthians 12:1 NKJV)

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. (1 Corinthians 12:11 NKJV)

God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will? (Hebrews 2:4 NKJV)

Now that we have set in order that the Holy Spirit has all things needful to be a person lets look at some other things he does which also show personality.

E) The Holy Spirit comands.

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." (Acts 8:29 NKJV)

Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. (Acts 13:1-4 NKJV)

Notice that the Holy Spirit said , Also notice for the work whereunto I call them. Not the Father , or the Son but the Holy Spirit. Only a person could do such a thing.Also notice being sent by the Holy Ghost.

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.

After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them. Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, (Acts 16:6-11 NKJV)

The Holy Spirit forbidden , suffered them not. As he could give order he can also forbidden or suffered not. All this is part of a personality.

F) The Holy Spirit teaches

As a person the Holy Spirit can teach.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. (John 14:26 NKJV)

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (1 Corinthians 2:13 NKJV)

G) The Holy Spirit leads

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. (Romans 8:14 NKJV)

H) The Holy Spirit contends

And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." (Genesis 6:3 NKJV)

I) The Holy Spirit does miracles

Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. (Acts 8:39 NKJV)

The Mircles of Jesus Christ was done by the Holy Spirit.

"But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Matthew 12:28 NKJV)

J) The Holy Spirit can testify

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. (John 15:26 NKJV)

K) The Holy Spirit Intercedes

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (Romans 8:26 NKJV)

As we continue to read about the Holy Spirit we find out that the Spirit is a person with personality. His works show himself to be a person.And if he is a person lets learn more about that person.

L) He can be obeyed

While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. "Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius, and said, "Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?" (Acts 10:19-21 NKJV)

M) He can be lied to

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? "While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." (Acts 5:3-4 NKJV)

Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." (Acts 5:7-9 NKJV)

N) He could be resisted

"You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. (Acts 7:51 NKJV)

O) He could be insulted

Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? (Hebrews 10:29 NKJV)

P) He could be blaspheme, you can only do this to God as a person

"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. (Matthew 12:31 NKJV)

It is good to point out that the blaspheme of the Holy Spirit can not be forgiven. If he was a force that couldn't be possible. Becouse he is a person and God that is possible. Before we move on let me point out that we saw his works is evidence of his personality and his relationship and actions also show personality.

What should be done with verses which describe the Holy Spirit not like a person? Like the fallowing:

"And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. (Joel 2:28-29 NKJV)

'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. (Acts 2:17-18 NKJV)

A.W.Pink in his Book the Holy Spirit states the Fallowing of such words.Which should be taken for consideration.

{We already saw that the Holy spirit has personality , thus he is a person. Now what can be done with such verses.Some of our readers may be surprised to hear that there are men professing to be Christians who flatly deny the personality of the Spirit. We will not sully these pages by transcribing their blasphemies, but we will mention one detail to which appeal is made by the spiritual seducers, because some of our friends have possibly experienced a difficulty

with it. In the second chapter of Acts the Holy Spirit was said to be 'poured out' (v. 18) and 'shed abroad' (v. 33). How could such terms be used of a Person? Very easily: that language is figurative, and not literal; literal it cannot be for that which is spiritual is incapable of being materially 'poured out.' The figure is easily interpreted: as water 'poured out' descends, so the Spirit has come from Heaven to earth; as a 'pouring' rain is a heavy one, so the Spirit is freely given in the plentitude of His gifts. } If this explaination is not good enough, I would show some verses speaking about humans being poured out . This is a figure of speach .A example of this saying be used by humans is mention in the fallowing psalms:

When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast. (Psalms 42:4 NKJV)

Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah (Psalms 62:8 NKJV)

Did these people really had thier souls or heart in a cup and poured it out? No it was just a figure of speach. So in that way it should be taken.

A other is being filled with the Holy Spirit.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:4 NKJV)

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: (Acts 4:8 NKJV)

By filled should mean completely controled by the Holy Spirit. First of all we have to understand the following:

1) God is spirit.

2)His body is nothing like ours.

3) We could never understand fullly his ways or how he works.

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8-9 NKJV)

We can not set our minds to know more about God than that which is spoken in scripture.

4) he could be in more place than one.

5) God does fill as what he states in

Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD. (Jeremiah 23:24 NKJV)

But one thing is a fact that a human might not fill a other human but God the Holy Spirit can fill you. He fills heaven and earth.Why not you.

If any thing we should worship him seeing he is God with the Father and the Son.Who fill all things even his servants.

But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." (Mark 10:27 NKJV)

Jesus said some heavey spiritaul truths which the people in his time did not understand. For example.

He spoke about eating his flesh and drinking his blood.

"Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. (John 6:54-56 NKJV)

Does this makes Jesus less of a person because he speaks of himself as a drink and food.No it does not.So it should not be done with the Holy Spirit.

Evidences of the Diety (Godhood) of the Holy Spirit.

1) His personality

It is needful to be God to have a personality.One could have personality and not be God.But to be God you must have to be a person. And the Holy Spirit as we saw is a person.

2) The Holy Spirit is given names suggesting Diety

The Spirit of our God

And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11 NKJV)

The Spirit of Jesus Christ

For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, (Philippians 1:19 NKJV)

John Owen in his book Doctrine of the Trinity states {" Secondly. He also has the names proper to a divine person only; for he is expressly called "God," Acts 5. He who is termed the "Holy Ghost," verse 3, and the "Spirit of the Lord," verse 9, is called also "God," verse 4. Now, this is the name of a divine person, on one account or other. The Socinians would not allow Christ to be called God were he not a divine person, though not by nature, yet by office and authority. And I suppose they will not find out an office for the Holy Ghost, whereunto he might be exalted, on the account whereof he might become God, seeing this would acknowledge him to be a person, which they deny. So he is called the "Comforter," John 16: 7. A personal appellation this is also; and because he is the Comforter of all God's people, it can be the name of none but a divine person. In the same place, also, it is frequently affirmed, that he shall come, that he shall and will do such and such things; all of them declaring him to be a person."}

3) He possesses the attributes of Diety

Attributes shows who the person is.

Having all Knowlge we call this Omnisience

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (1 Corinthians 2:11-12 NKJV)

All present (he is everywhere) we call this Omnipresent

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? (Psalms 139:7 NKJV)

All powerful we call this Omnipotence, man is limited in his power but it is not so with the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life. (Job 33:4 NKJV)

4) He is called God

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? "While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." (Acts 5:3-4 NKJV)

Notice in verse 3 states he lied to the Holy Spirit and then notice in verse 4 it states God who was lied to. So this means the Holy Spirit is called God.

a other example could be found in comparing 1 Corithians 3:16 and 6:19.

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16 NKJV)

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:19 NKJV)

Notice the Temple of God in chapter 3:16 and the Temple of the Holy Spirit in chapter 6:19 when speaking about our bodies.

5) Somethings which is said in the Old Testament as God Speaking in the New Testament states it states the Holy Spirit said it.

So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, "saying, 'Go to this people and say: "Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; And seeing you will see, and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'" (Acts 28:25-27 NKJV)

compare to

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand;

Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' "Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed." (Isaiah 6:8-10 NKJV)

But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." (Hebrews 10:15-17 NKJV)

Compare to

"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah- "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." (Jeremiah 31:31-34 NKJV)

The Eleventh Council of Toledo (675AD) states concerning the Holy Spirit the Fallowing {"We believe..... as well that the Holy Spirit, who is the third Person in the Trinity , is one and the same God with God the Father and God the Son: of a single substance and also of a single nature;not that he was generated or created, but that he proceeds from both of them, is the Spirit of both.Now the Holy Spirit is believed to be neither ungenerated nor generated; for, were we to say ungenerated, we would speak of two Fathers; or if we was to say generated we would show ourselves to be preaching two Sons. He is thus not the Spirit of the Father only or of the Son only, but it is said to be the Spirit of the Father and the Son at once;for he does not proceed from the Father into the Son, nor from the Son for the sanctifacation of creation; rather, he is seen to proceed from both at the same time, for he is to be acknowledged as the love an holiness of both.The Holy Spirit is therefore , is believed to be sent from both Father and Son just as the Son is sent from the Father. But the Spirit is

not less than the Father and the Son, in the sense that the Son testified himself to be less than the Father and the Spirit on account of his takingon human flesh."}